

ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT

The Engineering Assessment process considers two aspects:

- The condition of the existing road and associated features, for example bridges;
- Options to improve the route that meet the objectives for the scheme.

EXISTING ROAD

The engineering issues that are assessed are as follows:

- **HIGHWAY ALIGNMENT:** to identify problems such as inadequate visibility, along the route and from side roads
- **PAVEMENT:** to determine the condition and construction of the existing road
- **STRUCTURES:** to determine the condition and construction of structures that pass over or under, or support the existing road
- **DRAINAGE:** to determine how the existing road drains, and any potential flooding issues
- **GEOTECHNICS:** to establish the stability of earthworks, the likely ground conditions, and identify problems that may arise, for example areas of peat

Currently existing information is being collated, and where this is deemed inadequate, surveys will be undertaken to ensure that the results of this assessment are comprehensively reported.

ROUTE OPTIONS

Factors that will be considered when looking at ways to improve the existing route include

- Selection of the appropriate design standards for the schemes to ensure that safe and efficient proposals are developed.
- The overall condition, and feasibility of improving the existing road
- Topography of the area
- Problems that may arise associated with drainage and ground conditions
- Environmental constraints, for example Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Once a Preferred has been determined, more detailed issues such as signage and lighting, and construction will be assessed, reported and consulted upon.